

That which is claimed is:

1. An article for easy identification, classification, and inventory tracking, comprising said article having a first state and a second state, a first perception and a second perception, said first perception indicating said first state and said second perception indicating said second state.

2. An article according to Claim 1, wherein said first state is as an unused article and said second state is as a used article.

3. An article according to Claim 1, wherein said article has a plurality of surfaces and wherein said first perception is provided by a first identifiable characteristic located on one said surface and said second perception is provided by a second identifiable characteristic located on another of said surfaces.

4. An article according to Claim 3, wherein said first identifiable characteristic is a first color and said second identifiable characteristic is a second color.

5. An article according to Claim 1, wherein a plurality

of said articles are contained together in bulk and wherein said articles are aligned such that said first identifiable characteristics are aligned along one side of the packaging.

6. An article according to Claim 5, wherein the packaging encloses said articles with an exterior surface and wherein a portion of the exterior surface that is proximal to the alignment of said first identifiable characteristics contains a marking.

7. An article comprising a first state and a second state, and a first perception and a second perception, said first perception indicating said first state and said second perception indicating said second state.

8. An article according to Claim 7, wherein said first and second perceptions are incorporated into said article during manufacturing of said article.

9. An article according to Claim 7, wherein said first and second perceptions are incorporated into said article after the manufacturing of said article.

10. An article according to Claim 7, wherein said article further comprises a means for changing said first

perception into said second perception when said article changes to a different state.

11. An article according to Claim 10, wherein said means for changing said first perception is comprised of the chemical composition of at least a portion of the material comprising said article.

12. An article having a first state and a second state, a first perception and a second perception, comprising:

a means for indicating said first state from said second state wherein said first perception indicates said first state and said second perception indicates said second state.

13. An article according to Claim 12, wherein said article is an elongated flourescent light bulb having two ends and each said end having an end surface thereon.

14. An article according to Claim 13, wherein said first perception is provided by an identifiable characteristic located on one of said end surfaces.

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15. An article according to Claim 14, wherein said first perception is provided by a first identifiable characteristic located on one of said end surfaces and said second perception is provided by a second identifiable characteristic located on said second end surface.

16. An article according to Claim 12, wherein said first identifiable characteristic comprises a symbol.

17. A method for identifying, classifying, and inventory tracking goods having at least a first state and a second state, comprising the steps of:

providing at least one article having at least a first state and a second state; and

providing each said article with a first perception indicating said first state and a second perception indicating said second state.

18. An article according to Claim 17, wherein said article has a plurality of surfaces and wherein said first perception is provided by an identifiable characteristic comprising the shape of one of said surfaces.

19. An article according to ~~Claim 18~~, wherein the shape of said surface comprising said identifiable characteristic is a topographical change to said surface.

20. An article according to ~~Claim 18~~, wherein the shape of said surface comprising said identifiable characteristic is a change to the perimeter of said surface.

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